

About the Author/Compiler

By Lorna Jarrett Blanchard

Dr. B. Wayne Blanchard retired from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on September 30, 2010. He spent the last 16 years of his career, at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI), where he developed the Higher Education Program (High Ed). This Project was the first in the Nation, with the primary purpose, to encourage and support the expansion and innovation of undergraduate and graduate degrees and programs in the subjects of hazards, disasters and emergency management in colleges and universities across the country. Prior to this assignment, he created and managed the Family Disaster Preparedness Program*.

Dr. Blanchard joined FEMA in 1980.

He began in the National Preparedness Directorate. Dr. Blanchard worked on civil defense programs before transferring to the State and Local Programs Support Directorate. He served as their training coordinator for the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). He also served as the staff officer for the support of the NATO Civil Defense Committee.

Certification of Certified Emergency Managers (CEM)

In 1993, Dr. Blanchard was the first federal government employee to apply for, and one of the original applicants to become a Certified Emergency Manager from the National Coordinating Council on Emergency Management (now the International Association of Emergency Managers, or IAEM). Dr. Blanchard also served eight years as FEMA's Commissioner on the Certified Emergency Manager Commission.

Education and Field Experience

Dr. Blanchard has a Bachelor of Arts, with honors, in both Political Science and History from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 1974. In 1976, he earned a Masters in International Affairs, and 1980, his Ph.D. in Government and Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia. In 1994-1995 he earned a minor in Philosophy at Mount St. Mary's College. He has also received an Honorary Doctorate of Emergency Management from the Metropolitan College of New York.

Dr. Blanchard also took the opportunity to work in the field, some of the assignments he took were as follows:

- Hurricane Andrew of 1992 - assistant shelter manager for the Robert E. Lee American Red Cross Shelter in South Miami.
- Midwest Floods of 1993 - managed a citizen disaster preparedness campaign for the State of Kansas from the Federal Disaster Field Office in Topeka.
- Northridge Earthquake of 1994 - manager for North Hollywood American Red Cross Shelter for three weeks.

- Northridge Earthquake/Pasadena – developed and for three months managed a citizen disaster preparedness campaign that produced approximately 50 videotaped disaster preparedness public service announcements using the donated time of over twenty-four Hollywood celebrities.

Dr. Blanchard also served in his local American Red Cross as both a Disaster Action Team member and head of the Citizen Disaster Education unit, and as a volunteer in the Arlington County, VA, shelter for the homeless for three years.

* Today it is known as the Community and Family Preparedness Program.